

I have just finished the *Chalepedes*
with pendulous *potinia* but am
just now much interrupted by the
printing of my *Chimereae* paper and
have had to finish up a paper for the
Belfast meeting and as I wish to go down
first to the country to see Mr Pendarmon
who is seriously ill I believe I shall be
away till the end of the month

Yours very sincerely
George Donthans

Tell me what you decide about
Mellichampia if you mind I will keep
it up.

25, WILTON PLACE.
S.W.

Sept 16/72

My dear Gray

The little *Chaleped* you send
(*Mellichampia*) is only separable from
Chalepedes (in which I include *Bromop*
as *Brown*) by the very concave
almost cucullate lobes of the corolla
I should not like to make that a
sufficient generic distinction when
only observed in a single species and
unaccompanied by other differences
The inflorescence and small flowers as
well as the shape of the corolla in other
respects are those of the Cuban *C.*
ovalifolia. Engelmann says the lobes
are valvate. The flower sent as already
open but it appears to me that the
membranous ends of the lobes overlap as
in *Chalepedes* where the lobes are

sometimes nearly valvate but never
 strictly so as in *Metastelma* - Hemip
 to my mind differs no more from
Chaptalia than *Peristonea* aphylla from
D. Loxea or *Pinetorum* fruticulorum
 and *V. (Lynxotum)* Meyer from their twining
 leafy congeners.
 If you and Engimann think *Mellicampina*
 ought to be kept up, I have no objection
 but it goes rather against me unless
 other species with the same characters
 are detected.

Scutellum (Elliott's *depressa*) must go
 into *Pinetorum* (*Orthonia*)
 it is indeed identical with *Sprengelii* ~~*Pinetorum*~~
calmarum *Pinetorum* *ampullatum* *Orthonia* and
epiclyptum run too much into each other to be generally
 separated.
 As to the so-called base of the style
 in *Eutrichium* you are quite right
 in objecting to the term. I cannot now

examine it but it appears to me that in
Dorazium *labentia* *Perbenzen*
 etc. the carpels in this
 fashion each one is
 divided into two cells
 (spurious) cells and in the
 two former orders (except
Chrotium) also two lobed
 but still the two lobes form
 but one carpel the style ceases at a and
 the receptacle or gynobasis at b. the
 intermediate portion being the septum or
 axis in C where the ovary is attached
 by a broad base and lobed to the base
 I suppose the conical base must be called
 receptacle (or gynobasis) and there may be
 intermediates between A and C where
 it may be very difficult to say what is
 receptacle and what is axis. The same
 difficulty occurs in some *Mabaceae*
Antares *Synporium* etc.

